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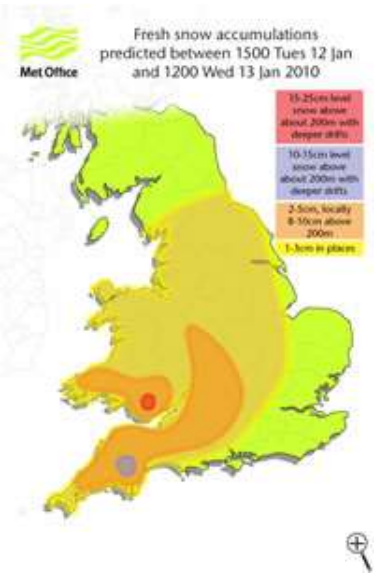
More snow as thaw continues

12 January 2010



The battle between the cold air currently over the UK and milder conditions trying to push in from the Atlantic will continue this week.

Heavy snowfall is forecast for parts of south-west England and south Wales today and tonight as an Atlantic weather system moves in against the cold air. However, there is a fine balance between which areas have rain and which have snow.

The heaviest snow is forecast for the high ground areas of the moors in Cornwall and Devon and the Brecon Beacons and Heads of the Valleys in south-east Wales. Up to 25 cm of fresh snow is expected in these areas with drifting and blizzards making conditions particularly hazardous.

Elsewhere, the slow thaw of lying snow continues across much of the country with daytime temperatures a few degrees above freezing. Frosts are still expected at night with ice in places.

The gradual rise in temperatures is expected to continue into the weekend as westerly winds bring milder weather and some rain to all parts for a time.

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